Law Enforcement Division Bi-Weekly Field Report 10/28/13 – 11/10/13

DISTRICT 1

CO Ryan Aho located a deer carcass that was surrounded by crows. The carcass was a buck with the head cut off. CO Aho located an illegal tree stand nearby with illegal bait. He followed an illegal ORV trail back to a camp with several hunters. One of the hunters claimed to have shot the buck several nights earlier. The hunter located the buck the following morning but coyotes had chewed on the carcass. The hunter cut off the head and left the remainder of the animal for the crows. CO Aho found numerous other violations when he checked the remaining hunters' tree stands. Several tickets were issued along with numerous verbal warnings.

CO Mark Leadman was working the Lake Levasseur waterfowl area one evening as a rowboat returned to the launch site. No life jackets were observed inside the boat. Officer Leadman explained the importance of having the life jackets as he checked the hunting gear of the two hunters. One of the shotguns was without a plug and the same subject was in possession of numerous lead shot rounds. A ticket was issued for the hunting violations along with a verbal warning for not having the necessary life jackets.

CO Jason Wicklund was on patrol after dark checking fields for shining activity when he observed a truck and ORV trailer parked at the end of a road. In the vehicle the CO could see a spotlight and ammunition as well as goose feathers. The CO set out on foot and located the ORV and two camouflaged hunters who were filming a deer hunt. The hunters were in possession of a bow, had no name on the tree stands and were hunting over a 50 lb. bag of corn. A total of nine violations were observed and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a bow hunter in an illegal tree stand. The hunter was using screw in tree steps on state land, had left his stand out all year and had failed to identify his stand with his name and address. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Jason Wicklund located two illegal blinds on public land. Later in the day CO Wicklund returned to check for activity at the blinds. While walking into the blinds, three hunters were contacted returning from baiting the illegal blinds. A check of the bait piles found both to be way over the limit. The hunters stated they would not be returning for a week and wanted to make sure there was enough bait to last the week. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund received a complaint of hunter harassment in Iron County. A bow hunter's trail camera took a picture of a subject spraying deer repellant on his bait pile. The subject was identified as a nearby landowner and interviewed by CO Dave Painter. A confession was obtained and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Kevin Postma responded to a complaint of a deer being dragged out of a field by a man and a woman. CO Postma was able to contact the suspect via license plate information provided by the complainant. The suspect advised that he and his girlfriend were out looking for a spot to hunt when they noticed a dead deer lying in a field. They decided that it would be a shame to see the deer go to waste and decided to go get it. CO Postma expressed his skepticism about the story and a report was sent to the prosecutor, who also agreed that they were trespassing and shot the deer. Warrants were issued.

COs Kevin Postma and Kyle Publiski assisted local deputies in a search for an overdue duck hunter on Munuscong Bay. A search at night in poor weather was unsuccessful. The deceased hunter was found the next morning, roughly 200-300 yards from his hunting blind.

After receiving a complaint of large bait piles on private property in Chippewa County, COs Kyle Publiski and Jeffrey Panich decided to investigate and located five large bait piles around the property. While walking back to their patrol vehicle, the COs passed a utility trailer. Officer Publiski observed fresh blood and deer hair in the trailer. Through a large hole in the wall of the adjacent barn, the COs could see a nine point buck without a tag attached. The Officers contacted the property owner and had him come back to the location with them. The COs were then able to inspect the deer and determined it had been shot with a rifle. A full confession was given and the deer and rifle seized.

Shortly after dark, COs Jeffrey Panich and Brett Gustafson were on patrol in a remote area of eastern Mackinac County. A vehicle approached and the two occupants, who had been out cutting firewood, stopped to talk to the COs. A file check revealed that one of the subjects had a warrant, with full extradition, out of the State of Minnesota. Subject was lodged in the Mackinac County jail.

COs John Wenzel and Jared Ferguson were contacted by Escanaba Public Safety regarding a trespass issue on City properties. CO Wenzel was able to contact the trespasser on his way out to his hunting stand. CO Wenzel advised the individual that he was not on City property, but private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Wenzel was on patrol when a report of domestic assault in progress came over central dispatch. After assaulting his female companion, the suspect fled on foot to the wooded area behind his dwelling. With his knowledge of the area, CO Wenzel was able to cut off the suspect's area of exit and narrow the search parameters for the assisting K-9 units. The subject was taken into custody without incident.

DISTRICT 3

CO Jon Sklba responded to a complaint of a subject trapping on private land and found that the complainant had taken the traps. However, the traps were not tagged. CO Sklba knew of a trapper who was working that area and contacted him. The trapper stated that he had permission, and CO Sklba confirmed that with the landowner. The CO checked where the traps had been set and discovered that they were within 15 feet of water (required to be at least 50 feet). The traps were given back to the trapper, along with a ticket for the violations.

CO Jon Sklba investigated a complaint of a fence that was possibly restricting the natural flow of wildlife. While investigating the complaint, CO Sklba located illegal deer bait in excess of two gallons on the adjacent property, within view of the suspect property. Enforcement action was taken on both issues.

CO Mark DePew was patrolling state land when he located an individual operating an ORV in a closed area. The individual was bow hunting without a license, using an excessive amount of bait, had no name an address on his stand and was using screw in steps. The hunter was ticketed and given warnings.

CO Mark DePew, while on patrol on state land, contacted the driver of a vehicle and his nine year old son, who had a pistol and uncased .22 rifle in the front seat between them. They stated they were just driving around looking for deer. The driver was ticketed for possessing the uncased firearms in the vehicle.

CO Kelly Ross contacted an angler who had retained a foul hooked fish; and while dealing with that angler observed an intoxicated subject fall into the river attempting to net a fish. The angler then proceeded to head back to his vehicle. CO Ross contacted the Alpena City Police Department who stopped the subject as he was leaving the parking lot and arrested him for the alcohol violation. The angler was also ticketed for retaining foul hooked fish.

DISTRICT 4

CO Steve Converse set up surveillance on a group of waterfowl hunters off shore on Lake Michigan in the Manistee area. CO Converse was able to observe several violations, including rallying ducks and possession of a loaded firearm in a motorboat while under power. When the subjects came to shore, CO Converse, along with CO Carla Soper, checked the group. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sean Kehoe followed up on a complaint of a jeep stuck in an area where the operation of ORVs is illegal. CO Kehoe was able to track down the owner of the jeep and discovered that the jeep was no longer in working order. CO Kehoe issued the owner of the jeep a ticket for the unlawful operation and instructed him to arrange to have the vehicle removed.

CO Rich Stowe reports that the District Court Judge for Grand Traverse County recently sentenced a subject that he submitted for an arrest warrant for taking a Wild Turkey out of season while his hunting privileges were revoked. The subject was assessed \$1,000 fines and costs, \$1,000 reimbursement for the turkey, 45 days in the county jail and had his hunting privileges further revoked until the year 2020.

Sgt. Mike Bomay received a complaint of a subject hunting state land who had shot a deer and tracked it onto private property past multiple no trespassing signs. The landowner of the private property had advised the subject several times to stay out. On this occasion the subject tracked his deer right under one of the hunters from the private property. Upon being contacted by the Sergeant, the subject couldn't understand what the landowners were so upset about. Enforcement action was taken and the deer was delivered to a family in need.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Brian Lebel were on patrol when they located two trappers near state land. The COs observed the trappers enter onto private property and set several traps from a boat. Surveillance was conducted for nearly two hours waiting the return of the subjects. Upon making contact, in addition to trespassing, it was discovered that one subject was trapping without a license and later admitted to shooting a deer with his bow with no license. The boat they were using was unregistered and lacked personal flotation devices (PFDs). The second subject was in possession of untagged traps. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel responded to a complaint of a subject shooting deer with a rifle from a motor vehicle and when contacted fled on foot. Sheriff Deputies responded and were able to locate the suspect. Enforcement action was taken along with seizure of the firearm.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint regarding an untagged deer at a residence. Upon arrival, CO Ginn contacted the suspects, who later confessed to shooting the deer without a license. In an attempt to hide the fact that the deer was possessed without a license, one of the individuals had his mother purchase a kill permit after the fact. The subjects were ticketed for the loaning/borrowing of tags, as well as the illegal deer.

CO Jeff Ginn was on stationary surveillance late at night where he had received several recent shining complaints. CO Ginn observed a vehicle shining for deer during the November shining ban. Upon making a traffic stop of the vehicle, the CO found the subjects were in possession of a .22 cal. rifle and a 12 ga. shotgun. Tickets were issued for shining an artificial light to locate game while in possession of firearms.

CO Angela Greenway was on patrol when she observed a pickup truck driving down a rural road with three subjects in the truck's bed. Upon noticing the CO following them, all three subjects ducked down and attempted to hide. The vehicle was stopped and CO Greenway determined that the subjects were attempting to zip up the case

containing a bow. Upon further inspection of the vehicle, a second uncased bow was located in the back seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy VanGelderen received a complaint of three subjects running through yards shooting at geese on Silver Lake. CO VanGelderen responded to the area and found that the subjects were gone. CO VanGelderen continued to patrol the area and located a vehicle on the other side of town matching the description of the shooters. CO VanGelderen interviewed the subjects, who admitted to being dropped off by grandpa to shoot the geese. The subjects thought that all the residences on the lake were unoccupied. Safety zone and trespass issues were addressed.

CO Troy VanGelderen received a complaint of an untagged trap on private property. CO VanGelderen conducted surveillance on the trap and observed the trapper coming to check his traps. CO VanGelderen waited for him at a "No Trespassing" sign and contacted the subject as he passed the sign. The subject was in possession of multiple traps that were untagged. The subject admitted to having more untagged traps out, but that they would be tagged by the time the CO could find them. A ticket was issued for the trap tag violation.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint of a hunter who was being harassed while deer hunting. CO Wells contacted the complainant and made an attempt to locate a suspect from the neighborhood. While conducting the investigation, CO Wells checked the complainant's hunting licenses to confirm that she was legally hunting. During this investigation it was determined that the complainant had already harvested two deer. A check of the license system confirmed that she had purchased an archery license along with a combination license. The licenses were purchased after she had harvested the two deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells was working a complaint of a subject who was hunting while his privileges were revoked due to past poaching violations. CO Wells was able to set up on property the subject was known to hunt, and observed the subject exiting the woods with a bow and arrow. The same individual was also a suspect involved in another complaint for shining and shooting deer with a rifle from a motor vehicle. The suspect vehicle was registered to the same suspect CO Wells was with, and a doe and the firearm used to take it were later seized. Enforcement action was taken, including hunting while revoked and take deer from a motor vehicle with the aid of an artificial light.

DISTRICT 5

CO Matt Liestenfeltz received a call at home around midnight from the sheriff's department. Their deputies were on a traffic stop with two subjects who had an untagged deer in their vehicle. CO Liestenfeltz responded to the scene and determined that the untagged deer had just been shot. The antlers were sawed off and the subjects were heading to one of their houses to butcher the deer. CO Liestenfeltz obtained confessions from the two individuals that they had been shining and shot the seven

point buck with a .270 rifle. In addition, the subjects confessed to doing the same thing to two other deer within the past two weeks. CO Liestenfeltz is seeking charges for taking three deer out of season, shining with a weapon in possession, and possessing a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Mike Hearn received a complaint of a subject who was dropping standing timber and harvesting fuelwood without a permit. CO Hearn responded to the area and located two standing oaks that were dropped. The CO was able to follow an ORV trail from the fresh cutting back to a residence where a subject was currently splitting a pile of firewood. During the interview, the subject initially stated the wood came from his property but later confessed to dropping the standing timber and harvesting without a permit. Warrants are being sought for the violation.

CO John Huspen checked two subjects hunting who had an expired license plate on their motor vehicle. Further investigation revealed the driver had an expired driver's license and no proof of insurance, but was not seen operating the vehicle. After checking their hunting blinds, the subjects had more than two gallons of bait and failed to affix their name and address to the tree stands. CO Huspen file checked the subjects and the driver had three warrants for expired license plate, expired driver's license, and no proof of insurance. CO Huspen ticketed the subjects for the natural resource violations.

COs Mike Hearn and Matt Liestenfeltz were on a late night shining patrol when they observed a vehicle with a headlight and a taillight out. The vehicle was stopped and they determined the driver was highly intoxicated and the passenger was in possession of marijuana. The driver was lodged for operating while intoxicated and warrants are being sought on the passenger for possession of marijuana.

CO John Huspen was patrolling a track of city property in Crawford County which is fenced off and closed to the public for entry or hunting. He observed a vehicle parked on the road near the fence and observed footprints entering into the fenced area. CO Huspen conducted surveillance on the vehicle and watched two subjects climb the fence to leave the property. One subject was carrying a crossbow. CO Huspen contacted the subjects and conducted interviews. The individual with the crossbow did not have a hunting license and was ticketed for recreational trespass and hunting without a license. The second subject was ticketed for recreational trespass.

CO Mike Hearn received a complaint of an antlered deer hanging behind a residence without a tag. Upon arrival, contact was made with the homeowner. CO Hearn located the deer and confirmed it was untagged and had the area surrounding the wound cut away. During CO Hearn's initial interviews with the subject, he indicated he had not purchased a license and shot the deer with a bow. Further investigation determined the deer was shot with shotgun after shooting hours two nights prior. The gun and 10 point buck were seized, and warrants are being sought for the violations.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz responded to a complaint of an untagged doe hanging in a garage. He made contact with the homeowner who indicated his son shot the deer. Further investigation of the doe revealed an invalidated kill tag belonging to the son stuck on the hide of the deer. After interviewing the son, it was determined the father shot the deer which he later confessed to. While determining why he borrowed his son's license, the father showed CO Liestenfeltz an eight point buck head in the freezer with his kill tag attached. CO Liestenfeltz observed a seven point buck head without a tag in that freezer which was later determined to belong to the son. The son admitted to shooting the buck before he bought a license and never tagged it. Charges are being sought for loaning and borrowing licenses and taking a deer illegally.

CO John Huspen was on patrol and contacted three subjects gutting a deer. After further investigation, CO Huspen determined there was no tag on the deer and the subjects had killed the deer an hour before and a half mile away. The individual who shot the deer was ticketed for failing to immediately attach the kill tag.

CO Brian Olsen started working an area that was drawing a lot of shining complaints. While sitting in the area, he observed a vehicle that was using a light. The traffic stop led to two brothers riding around looking for deer with an uncased bow lying in the front seat. The bow was ready for action as it had an arrow nocked and ready. CO Olsen issued a ticket for shining with a weapon in possession.

CO Jon Warner responded to a trespass complaint in losco County. Upon investigation, the CO located the suspects who claimed to be tracking a deer. They eventually admitted to knowingly entering onto the property of another without permission. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau responded to a complaint from numerous archery deer hunters in regard to ORVs being operated on state land. According to the complaints, several ORVs had been driving in an area not open to ORV use and intentionally harassing hunters. CO Papineau contacted a group of ORVs and a ticket was issued.

CO Mark Papineau responded to a trespass complaint involving a small game hunter. The complainant stated that he was deer hunting on his private property when he observed a small game hunter on his property. CO Papineau was able to find a possible suspect at a nearby camp on state land. After a long discussion involving multiple people, one of the subjects confessed to trespassing and hunting small game without a license. Multiple tickets were issued.

Sgt. Jon Wood contacted two hunters in a motor vehicle as they were driving down a remote two-track. Two uncased bows were found in the cab of the vehicle. Further investigation led to one of the hunters having purchased resident hunting licenses while he was a non-resident. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

COs Phil Hudson and Nick Atkin assisted local deputies with locating and recovering the body of a missing angler on the Rifle River. With the use of kayaks and canoes, officers battled high, fast and dirty water and located the missing angler's body about two miles downstream from where he was reported missing. It's unknown if the angler was swept into the river by the high fast rushing water or died from other causes.

COs Chad Foerster and Nick Atkin were checking perch anglers on a patrol to locate waterfowl hunters. During the contact, the COs found that one of the anglers had shot a deer, processed it and failed to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

After receiving a complaint, CO Nick Atkin contacted a deer hunter and questioned him about an untagged deer. During the interview the CO found out that the subject had one untagged deer and had taken three other deer illegally. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin was conducting a late night shining patrol when he observed a vehicle shining the field he was watching. The CO stopped the truck and during the investigation that followed, located a loaded, uncased firearm, a compound bow in the truck and open intoxicants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bob Hobkirk received a RAP complaint of traps set prior to the November 1st raccoon opener. While investigating the complaint, the CO located four untagged traps. CO Hobkirk was familiar with the residents of the area and soon developed a suspect residence. As it turned out, it was the three young boys who lived at the residence. The boys were given a hunting/trapping guide and given the assignment of reading the guide. Both parents assured that the guide would be read.

A subject called the RAP hotline and reported that he had just shot a deer in his yard with a firearm because the deer was injured. When CO Bob Hobkirk arrived at the residence, the man stated that he had since learned that he may have done something illegal by shooting the deer. He explained that the deer was lying in his yard, unable to move and crying like a baby. Upon inspection, the deer had injuries to its rear quarters. CO Hobkirk explained to the man that he should have made a phone call prior to shooting the deer.

While heading down a state highway, CO Seth Rhodea observed a vehicle waiting to pull onto the road that had a deer strapped to the roof. The CO pulled over and made contact with driver who was transporting the deer for another person. The tag was found to be not properly validated and the hunter who killed the deer was contacted and ticketed for failing to validate his kill tag.

After receiving several complaints about waterfowl decoys being left out overnight on Saginaw Bay, COs Bob Hobkirk and Seth Rhodea patrolled the complaint area late at night during the hours it was illegal to have decoys out on Great Lakes waters. The COs located three blinds with decoys left out and seized the decoys from all the blinds. The

patrol had to be cut short due to there not being any room left in the boat for additional decoys. All parties are in the process of being contacted and enforcement action will be taken.

COs Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee were checking duck hunters in the Shiawassee River State Game Area (SGA) when they saw a hunter throw what appeared to be a duck into the corn behind them. When the COs checked the group they were in possession of their limit of hen mallards. The COs left the group and circled back around to check the corn behind them, where they found a hen mallard, still warm. When asked about the bird, the party could not settle on which far-fetched story to stick with. Tickets were issued to all three in the hunting party for possession of an overlimit of ducks.

CO Dan Lee received several calls about 40 minutes after duck hunting hours had ended to let him know that a group of hunters in the Shiawassee River SGA were shooting late. The CO, with the help of CO Ivan Perez, contacted the group at their residence. The hunters swear they heard the staff at the check station say that hunting hours ended at 6:44, not 6:24. CO Perez explained that they were heard shooting at 6:55 which would have been late either way. Enforcement action will be taken.

CO Joel Lundberg attempted to stop two ORVs operating in a closed area just after midnight. The two operators fled from the CO when the emergency lights and siren were activated. The CO was able to follow them into the next county, where the operators finally stopped. One of the operators had a suspended license, and felony warrants in Florida and Delaware. He also had warrants out of two local courts. Both operators were lodged for felony flee and elude.

CO Joel Lundberg saw headlights in the woods behind a residence several hours after dark. The vehicle came out to the roadway, and a traffic stop was conducted. There was an individual in the bed of the truck, and two untagged deer. Two of the vehicle occupants admitted shooting the deer and not tagging them. The third individual had a deer hanging in the barn down the road with a license that he borrowed from a friend. Tickets were issued.

CO Joel Lundberg made a traffic stop on a vehicle and the driver had a suspended license. After a lengthy interview, the CO learned of a deer that had been shot at the deer camp where the individuals were going. CO Steve Lockwood was called and asked to go to the camp and do an interview with the shooter of the deer. CO Lockwood interviewed the suspect at camp and got a confession on the individual not tagging his deer. CO Lockwood was able to retrieve the deer and a ticket was issued.

COs Jeremy Payne and Ken Lowell received a complaint at 4:00 a.m. regarding shots fired and possible deer poaching. The COs went to the scene, hid and watched the area for any activity. At daylight the COs contacted the suspects at a residence and located two bucks illegally shot at night with a .308 rifle. A confession was obtained and warrants will be sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Quincy Gowenlock received a complaint of waterfowl hunters shooting late in the Maple River SGA. The CO headed to the game area, found a place to hide and watched a group of hunters until shooting hours ended. The hunters did not shoot late but when contacted, the CO found that they did not have plugs in their guns. Tickets were issued.

CO Jeremy Payne was checking a camper on state land and noted a strong smell of marijuana when the owner came out to talk to the CO. A search was conducted and two large baggies of marijuana were found. The camper also did not have his camp registered. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Greg Patten ticketed two campers who appeared to be living on the Muskegon SGA and continue to relocate their campsite. After checking a recent site, CO Patten found the campers had been burning plastics and other non-biodegradable items in their fire pit. The campers were further encouraged to move on and discontinue their misuse of the area.

COs Ivan Perez and BJ Goulette observed a jeep parked in the late evening in a rural area. Checking the vehicle they noted a bow case and hunting equipment and felt the hunter was still afield. A short wait resulted in two persons dragging an untagged deer that had not been field dressed. After a brief discussion the hunter was ticketed for failing to immediately tag his deer.

CO Chris Holmes conducted deer processor inspections and found that two individuals had killed deer before purchasing licenses. CO Holmes interviewed the subjects and found they had not only killed deer illegally, but had also purchased multiple combination and archery tags in the past. Tickets for the illegal deer were issued and an investigation into multiple license purchases continues.

Sgt. Jeff Rabbers responded to a complaint of shots fired in Barry County where a hunter witnessed an antlered deer shot with a .22 caliber rifle. Sgt. Rabbers was able to locate where the deer had been shot and tracked the movement back to a nearby residence, where it had been hidden in an outbuilding. Contact was made with the landowner and the hunters involved in the incident. One subject was charged with the illegal taking of the deer and another was ticketed for hunting without a license.

CO Jeff Robinette received a RAP complaint of a subject shooting a deer with a firearm prior to November 15th. CO Robinette investigated and located a gunshot six point buck hanging in the suspect's back yard. The subject did not have any type of hunting license. The subject was issued a ticket for illegal possession of whitetail deer.

Sgt. John Jurcich continued to work on a complaint of a buck taken with a rifle that was reported by a bow hunter. During a foot patrol with CO Chris Simpson of the section where the deer was taken, the COs encountered a person who, when questioned,

admitted to placing stands, bait and cameras with plans to hunt the area soon. During continued questioning about the evidence left at the scene, this person confessed to hunting without a license, with a rifle and taking the buck illegally a week prior. A bullet taken from the deer confirmed the admission by the hunter and enforcement action will proceed for the illegal harvest. Quick action by citizens involving calling 911, securing evidence and working with conservation officers assisted greatly in the resolution of this case.

CO Gary Raak responded to a littering complaint in the Barry SGA where a subject was spotted dumping carpet. The complainant was able to supply CO Raak with a license plate number which resulted in the location of the subject. A confession was obtained and the subject was ticketed for littering.

CO Mike Mshar responded to a trespass complaint in progress, and was able to locate the subjects. They claimed that they thought they were on commercial forest land because the landowner's name where they were illegally hunting was the same as that listed in the guidebook they were looking at. CO Mshar advised that this was a different landowner and that the commercial forest land was on the other side of the county. Enforcement action was taken per the landowner's request.

CO Mike Mshar contacted two subjects returning to their vehicle after dark from bow hunting. When asked how their hunting was they indicated they had not had any success. CO Mshar identified blood on one of the subject's arrows and requested the truth. An untagged antlerless deer was located hidden behind the vehicle. The successful hunter indicated that she had left her license at home and her father indicated that he was going to tag the deer for her. CO Mshar discussed the rules with them and gave them a warning for the untagged deer. A ticket was issued for hunting without a license in possession.

DISTRICT 8

CO Shane Webster received a RAP complaint of a buck hanging in a barn on a vacant parcel of property. Upon arrival, CO Webster observed two bucks hanging in the barn, and several hides strewn about. CO Webster, with assistance from a local deputy, began questioning the neighbors for information, and while doing so, noted lights at the barn. The Officers contacted a subject as he was attempting to load the deer into his pickup truck. Inside the pickup were a spotlight and a loaded and uncased muzzleloader. A second vehicle was stopped on the roadway with a male occupant who was also involved. The two subjects confessed that they had taken the deer by shining at night, utilizing a .22 caliber rifle which was seized. The two bucks and seven other sets of antlers were located and taken as evidence. Charges are pending through the prosecutor's office on nine illegally taken deer.

CO Jeff Goss conducted a processor inspection and located a deer with a suspicious tag. Further investigation revealed that the same man had two deer at the processor; one of which was a tag belonging to an elderly woman. As luck would have it the

subject showed up to pick up his deer while CO Goss was still there. Upon questioning the subject it was discovered that he shot a six point earlier in the season and tagged it with one of his combination license tags. A few days later he shot an eight point and didn't want his season to be over, so he had his elderly aunt purchase another set of combination licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller responded to a possible trespass complaint, after the complainant advised that he saw flashlights in the field behind his house. CO Miller arrived and upon contacting the group, obtained ID from all of the hunters. They told the CO they were tracking a deer from property they had permission to hunt. CO Miller checked licenses and observed an uncased crossbow in the back seat of a car. CO Miller then asked if there were any other weapons in or on any of the vehicles. One of the subjects failed to mention he was carrying a concealed pistol and enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller assisted the MSP and local deputies on a call of a suicidal/homicidal subject in the woods with stolen shotguns. The officers arrived on scene and began evacuating houses in the area, along with seasonal homes in the woods where the subject was known to be hiding. A short time later, the subject came out and surrendered to officers without incident. The subject did state that he shot at a subject in the woods and threw his guns into a wooded area before surrendering to officers. The search continued well into the night, and were able to conclude that nobody had been injured.

CO Kyle Bader followed up on a RAP complaint of a tagging violation. The subject first denied shooting any deer, but after a short interview, he produced a nine point rack from the corner of the garage. There was an invalidated kill tag tied to an antler. Further questioning revealed that the subject had purchased the tag after killing the deer. A ticket was issued for failure to immediately validate and attach the kill tag.

CO Kyle Bader took a RAP complaint from a subject who found a fresh gun killed deer in a wooded area of his property. CO Bader responded and located the deer. After a lengthy necropsy, a rather unique slug was removed from the carcass. Evidence indicated that the deer was shot from the road and died in the woods. CO Bader interviewed a resident of the closest and only house in the area. The subject admitted to shooting at a woodchuck with a muzzleloader. When CO Bader asked for a slug for the muzzleloader, the subject produced one very similar to the one taken out of the deer. The subject subsequently confessed to shooting at a deer but thought he missed it. Charges are being sought through the prosecutor.

CO Kyle Bader received information from a MSP trooper that a subject was seen going into the woods with a long gun. The subject was contacted on the way out carrying a crossbow. No firearm was located, but the subject's hands were covered in blood and hair. He said he had cut himself with a hunting knife. After a few questions, he showed CO Bader where the untagged six point buck was in the woods that had been shot with a bow and arrow. The CO assisted the senior hunter drag out and load his deer, and then issued a ticket for failure to immediately validate and attach a kill tag.

CO Kyle Bader stopped a vehicle that was shining at about 11:45 p.m. The subject thought he could shine until November 15th. He was informed that even if it wasn't November, he was still out past 11 p.m. The subject then said, "You remember me don't you, you gave me a break last year when you stopped me for shining and I had my bow in the truck." This year a ticket was issued for the violation.

CO Jason Smith received a complaint that a bow hunter had shot a nine point and had it hanging in a barn, untagged. CO Smith also learned that the hunter was asking around to borrow a tag because he did not have one. COs Jason Smith and Derek Miller contacted the hunter and he admitted to shooting a large buck. The COs asked to see it and noticed it was hanging pretty high with a tag on it. CO Smith asked the hunter if he could borrow a nearby ladder and found that it was tagged with a junior combination license tag. When the COs asked about the tag the hunter quickly said that his son shot it and when the COs smiled at him he then immediately confessed to taking the buck without a license. Warrants are being requested.

CO Shane Webster investigated a complaint of an illegally taken buck in Jackson County. CO Webster located information showing that the deer was dead on the same evening that the subject purchased his hunting license; well after hunting hours had ended. A confession to taking the deer prior to purchasing a hunting license was obtained and the eight point buck was seized along with the venison that the subject had just picked up from the processor. Charges are pending through the prosecutor's office.

CO Todd Thorn was dispatched to a recreational trespass complaint that had occurred the day before and no subject information was available. The complainant stated that a large nine point buck had been taken off his property and gave a description of the vehicle to the CO. A neighbor had seen the activity and informed the landowner. CO Thorn went to the location on two separate occasions and on the second trip, was able to learn the identity of the subject by talking to neighbors. The subject was contacted at his house about two miles away and after some discussion, admitted to having taken the deer off of the property without permission. The deer was seized and a request for charges will be submitted to the prosecutor's office.

DISTRICT 9

COs Kris Kiel and Todd Szyska were working a field for shining activity in Macomb County when a vehicle showed up and began spotlighting out the driver side window of the vehicle. The COs watched the vehicle cast their light multiple times. The vehicle was eventually stopped. The father stated that they were shining the fields not looking for deer, but looking for poachers. No weapons were found in the vehicle, and the shining during November law was explained. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel reports that a case where a subject shot a Canada goose during the closed season has been adjudicated. The subject shot a Canada goose with a bow and arrow. The Canada goose flew away with the arrow and landed in the middle of a youth

soccer game. The subject pled guilty to take a Canada goose during the closed season and paid \$925, including \$500 reimbursement for the value of the Canada goose.

While patrolling the Lapeer SGA, CO Ben Lasher checked two waterfowl hunters, both of whom had lead shot and one had an unplugged gun. They also had an uncased bow in the back of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

While working northern St. Clair County for shining activity, CO Ken Kovach found a subject sporadically shining and followed the vehicle for approximately 12 miles. When the vehicle was stopped the CO found six occupants who had been shining with a loaded, uncased rifle in the back seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach followed up on an excessive bait complaint and contacted a subject who was standing in the middle of a bait pile. The bait pile was in excess of 50 gallons of apples, carrots, and sugar beets. The subject was hunting one hour after legal hunting hours, and was also trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Arthur Green along with COs Lacelle Rabon, Mark Ennett and Mike Drexler have responded to several RAP complaints along the Huron River in Flat Rock of people snagging fish. Within a three day period, the COs issued more than 15 tickets amidst cheers from the local law abiding anglers. In one case, Sgt. Green seized 84 fish and charged the subjects with restitution for 60 pounds of fish at \$5 per pound.

CO Mark Ennett assisted a local deputy on a call during a recent night shift where a 16 year old girl had taken a combination of drugs and alcohol. She then made threats of suicide and began struggling for a set of kitchen knives with the adults in the home. CO Ennett arrived first, and by then the girl had dissolved into a tearful, but non-violent person who merely wanted "help". The ambulance attendants then took her to the vehicle without further incident.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a complaint where the complainant thought that too many gunshots were taking place soon after a pair of deer had wandered into an area known to have tree-stands. Upon arrival on the scene, CO Ennett came across two men who were in the process of field dressing a pair of antlerless deer that appeared to be a doe and fawn. One hunter readily admitted to shooting both deer with a rifle from an elevated platform. Neither deer had been tagged and the rifle he used was still in the nearby truck. CO Ennett began questioning the second subject and he admitted to shooting a third deer with a shotgun from his nearby elevated stand. It was an untagged seven point buck that was still lying near the edge of the field about 60 yards away. It had been dragged out of the ditch where it had died, and had not been field dressed. The subject shot it with the shotgun, but finished it off with a crossbow. Both were ticketed for possessing/killing deer with firearms during a closed season. The firearms were seized, as well as their hunting licenses and ammunition, and the deer were seized and donated. The subjects admitted that they knew this was wrong but they just wanted some deer.

While investigating a complaint of subjects snagging fish on the Huron River, CO Dan Walzak watched while a subject intentionally snagged a fish and reeled it in. CO Walzak recognized him as a member of a group of subjects he had contacted not 30 minutes prior for the same activity in a different location on the river. When the subject turned around with the fish still on the line to place it in his bucket, he looked up to see CO Walzak standing there watching him. The stunned look on his face slowly turned into an uncomfortable grin. When the CO didn't respond in kind the subject dropped his fishing rod and the look on his face turned to one of realization that he had made a serious mistake. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler received a complaint of subjects snagging fish at the Flat Rock Dam. After conducting surveillance of two subjects for about 30 minutes he observed the younger of the two take the fishing pole, snag a fish in the tail, and place it in a cooler. CO Drexler then observed the subject display to his grandfather what he was doing wrong, and performed a sharp twitch of the fishing rod. CO Drexler contacted both anglers and a ticket was issued for retaining foul hooked fish.

CO Brandon Kieft followed up on a complaint of hunters shooting within the safety zone of residences in Brandon Township. CO Kieft contacted the five waterfowl hunters and during the contact, one of the hunters attempted to hand CO Kieft his 2010 waterfowl licenses. Although the same color as the 2013 licenses, CO Kieft was quick to point out that the federal stamp and dates were not correct. A check of this hunter's 2013 licenses showed that he had not purchased a Michigan Waterfowl License or a Federal migratory bird stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Kieft interviewed an archery hunter regarding a complaint of hunter harassment and the use of screw-in tree steps on public lands. Two hunters were in an area quite close to one another in Springfield Township's Shiawassee Basin Preserve. The hunters got into a verbal argument and one of them returned to the area and poured a jug of human urine near the other's tree stand. This activity was caught on a trail camera near the tree stand. When CO Kieft interviewed the subject he admitted to the harassment and use of screw-in tree steps. The subject was issued a ticket for screw-in steps on public lands, and a warning was given for the hunter harassment.

CO Brandon Kieft investigated a complaint of shots fired, possible firearm deer hunting in Addison Township. While investigating the complaint, CO Kieft determined that the deer was shot with a crossbow and the kill tag was not validated properly. There was also an excessive bait pile on another portion of the hunter's property. He was ticketed for the excessive bait and warned for the validation of the kill tag.

CO Brandon Kieft received a RAP complaint that two male subjects were jumping on a locked park gate and using a rock to try and break the lock. They had been hunting earlier in the evening and wanted to drive back toward the field where they had been. The complainant provided a license plate number and CO Kieft conducted a follow up interview. The subjects ended up being 14 and 17 years old. They confessed and enforcement action was taken.

Just before 3:00 a.m., CO Ben Shively stopped a minivan occupied by six subjects travelling back roads and shining in November. Upon contact with the driver, CO Shively observed an uncased crossbow on the floor behind the passenger's seat. A search of the vehicle also revealed a cased rifle and a cased shotgun in the rear of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.